



FRIDAY NIGHT FACTS

Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., Governor

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Welcome to Friday Night Facts ! This was an exciting week for the Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives as we participated in the tour of the new PLUS, Purposeful Living Units Serve, facilities at the Pendleton Correctional Industrial Facility. The Department of Corrections is one of the first major departments of State Government who have implemented their own faith-based initiative. Commission Donahue should be congratulated for piloting the concept of offering both faith and character based curriculum to inmates in an effort to help prepare them for their return to their individual communities.

Please take a moment to read more about the PLUS pilots in the Department of Corrections below.

PLUS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

The mission of the PLUS, Purposeful Living Units Serve, program is to provide an opportunity for participants to explore and choose alternatives to criminal thinking and behavior through an emphasis on spiritual, moral, and character development, life-skills training and intentional preparation for living as a law-abiding citizen who contributes to the well-being of his community.

The PLUS participant is essentially involved in seven key components simultaneously. These are identified as :

- Purposeful Life Plan—results in the development of a personal moral code and life plan
- Victim Impact—offender confronts an understanding of how his criminal behavior and choices have harmed others
- Core Curriculum—offender learns that it is his actions that confirm his transformation and integrity is spoken through deeds
- Healthy Living—teaches and reinforces the precept that “healthy people make healthy choices ”
- Community Service—participation in specific projects with definable goals is required
- Mentoring—where appropriate and applicable, mentoring aids in establishing the foundation of a support system for community reentry.
- Reentry Preparation—this final phase maximizes the skills learned in the others

PLUS is a sixteen-month program in which offenders volunteer to participate. The program is being piloted at Pendleton, the Indiana Women 's Prison and the Plainfield Juvenile Correction Facility. Between the three facilities 196 offenders have volunteered to turn their lives around using either a faith based or character based curriculum. As would be expected, monitoring and evaluation of the program is ongoing to determine the appropriateness of continuing and expanding the effort.

PLUS CONT'D

The success of PLUS to date can be attributed to Commissioner Donahue for believing in the concept, the staff of the three facilities for working very hard to implement the program beginning on June 1st and the many volunteers who serve as mentors and teachers in each of the facilities.

Volunteers from many faith based institutions have stepped forward and committed their time to make this program a reality. Governor Daniels saluted the volunteers this week for believing in the basic goodness of every individual and agreeing to help these offenders get on the right road for reentry to their respective communities.

Anyone wanting to volunteer can get more information about the program by calling 317-232-5712 or going to the website at www.in.gov/indcorrection/.

**STRENGTHENING FAMILIES
STRENGTHENS OUR COMMUNITY
FEATURING: DR. STEPHEN R. COVEY
FREE EVENT!**

August 16th, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

**IUPUI Lecture Hall, 325 University Boulevard, Indianapolis, Indiana
Limited Seating Available**



Watch for special outreach efforts for RX for Indiana at the following locations:

**August 12, 13, 14, & 17 at the Indiana State Fair
August 15 in East Chicago and Gary, Indiana
August 16 at Lafayette Square Mall, Indianapolis**

Join us at one of these sites to get prescription drug assistance!